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THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

LOCAL NOTICES.

Leading Glasses and Picture Frames of all kinds at the store of Scott, Murray & Fawcett, 75 Wood street, near Fifth avenue.

Union Force Company

Office No. 6 over depot, removed to No. 1 south side of Liberty street. 1y

$10 Pots.

From a common tobacco pipe to the most elegant meerschaum. Wholesale and Retail. Pipe re-bitting, Amber Tobacco Pipes. Factory 75 Fifth avenue.

Spencer Seminary and Musical

Institute, Winter Session opens January 5, 1869. Rev. Robert Boyce, A. M., Principal. 2v3

Carriages

of new and beautiful patterns in varnish and upholstery, for sale by Scott, Murray & Fawcett, 75 and 77 Fifth avenue.

Tobacco, Tobacco.

Nathan's Best Indian Weed unfailingly cures Dyspepsia. Seven cents, Stamps not taken. Sold by druggists generally, and sent by mail by the proprietor, N. Nathan, 1 Maiden lane, New York. Sold by all Druggists. 4w6

To Let.

A dwelling containing eight rooms, with out-buildings, gas, water, garden, &c., situated on Penn avenue, commanding a fine view of the city, and convenient to three lines of cars passing the door. Rent moderate. Apply on the premises, or at Smithfield street, corner Diamond, near Fifth avenue. 6

FIRST EDITION.

10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

WASHINGTON.

A Rumpus at Office-Seekers.

A Raid on the White House—Sickles to Office-Seekers Deputed—General Howard to be Assigned to Sheridan's Late Command—The Question of General Legislation at this Session—Secretaries Washburne, Boutwell and Cox at Their Posts—Commissioner Delano to Enter Upon his Duties To-Day—More Railroad Grants—Cleveland Office-Seekers—General Sherman's First Order—The Foreign Appointments—Hamilton Fish Named for England and Governor Curtin for Russia—Other Items of Senator Morton.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

Washington, D. C., March 4, 1869.

The White House

Was crowded to-day with a great multitude of office-seekers, whose anxiety to get their names in their demand to see the President. So thronged upon the doors of his office at eleven o'clock, and for an hour succeed everybody. There was a perfect rush, and he had to entrench himself behind a barricade of chairs to get a few moments' respite and recuperation before new presents, not one of which was opened by him, all being turned over to General Babcock to be forwarded to their proper destination, where they belong. He will not, he says to all applicants, examine papers himself, and office-seekers may as well understand first as last that he will not consider any applications till time comes to fill the vacancies. Governor Curtin, Captain Robert Lincoln was among the visitors to-day, having recently called in per his respects.

The President's Recess.

General Howard is to be relieved from the charge of the Freedmen's Bureau, as is understood, about the first of April, and will be appointed by Gen. Hatch, who has for a long time been in command of the military district in Louisiana. The order relieving Gen. Howard has not yet been issued, but Gen. Hatch has been ordered here from New Orleans and there have been interviews between Gen. Sherman and Gen. Howard, in which the matter has been contemplated long ago. Howard is in connection our Indian affairs. It is not yet determined whether to give him the whole command from which Gen. Sheridan has just been relieved or a new command embracing only a part of that territory.

Question of Legislation.

The Senate committee of five appointed by the Republican caucus of yesterday, at a conference to-day, agreed to advise that no general legislation be attempted at the present session, and that an effort be made to adjourn by the middle of next month. The branch of the committee having charge of the Pacific railroad bills, the Indian appropriation bill, the next census and the partial re-distribution of national bank currency, seemed to be about the only questions on which it was thought it would be necessary to act. It is not yet to be ascertained whether the House will or will not agree to the course thus indicated.

Secretary Washburne

Was at the State Department for a couple of hours this morning, giving directions about business and receiving the visits of his many friends. Among those who called were the British Minister and Consul General of Switzerland. He has not made any recommendations for foreign appointments or removals. He spent the afternoon at the War Office, and is the recipient of many calls at his residence this evening. His letter of resignation as Secretary of State was received by the House this morning by Speaker Blaine. He is now in feeble health, though better than he was ten days ago.

Secretary Boutwell

Having, after consultation with the President, decided to accept his tender of the Navy Department, was this forenoon sworn in by Chief Justice Carter of the supreme District Court, in the room of the Secretary of War, and he immediately entered upon the duties of his office. Numerous prominent gentlemen who called, he is fifty-eight years of age, of medium height, with iron gray hair, and short white whiskers and mustache. He has been a member of Congress from the district which includes Groton, and the physicians treated the former as if his appointment.

Secretary Cox

arrived here this morning, and was at the White House with the President and other members of the Cabinet for some time during the day. He took the oath of office before Justice Carter, of the District Supreme Court, in the room of the Secretary of War, and immediately entered upon the duties of his office. He is going to give special attention to the Indian Bureau, and will hereby second the efforts of the President to bring about thorough reform there. It is expected that he and the President will agree upon a new Indian Commissioner before the end of the week.

Commissioner Delano

Will take the oath of office to-morrow and at once enter upon his duties in the Internal Revenue Bureau. Mr. Rollins will remain in the office long enough to see his successor in beginning work. Buckley's place has already been filled by the appointment of Walter Smith, of Ohio, as Secretary of the Board.

More Railroad Land Grants Wanted.

Senator Dagget has introduced a bill for a grant of lands for the construction of a railroad from Sioux City to Columbus, Nebraska. The grantees are also constructing the Sioux City branch of the Pacific Railroad from the route selected and the road is now nearly completed by the company designated, is of such a nature, cause and distance as to render a grant of lands necessary and appropriate for the numerous railroads from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Northern Iowa connecting at Sioux City.

Senator Rice of Arkansas, also introduced the general Indian Railroad scheme, known as the Central Indian Company.

Senator Tipton also introduced a bill for a limited mine or of coal in Utah territory, including a grant of twenty alternate sections.

Attempted Tobacco Raid.

A prominent Illinois gentleman called on General Grant to-day to suggest a name for one of the principal offices in his State, and was informed that the President had already selected a man for the place, and was only waiting for the custom by which Congressmen have assumed exclusive right to dispense patronage, in creating a good deal of embarrassment. Sometimes these principal men consists of the appointment.

Cleveland Office-Seekers.

The following are the principal applicants for offices from Cleveland and vicinity who are now in Washington: Postmaster, Horace Foster, Jr., and — Bernard; Assessor, Col. H. Sperry; Custom House Collector, Jim Cummins; Pension Agent, Col. J. B. Hewitt; and for Surveyor of Customs, Dr. Pendleton has received the appointment of Special Pension Agent for Ohio.

Peace from Kentuckians.

Many prominent Kentucky radicals have been up to a very strong-it worked ground against the removal of political disabilities in the State.

Not Complimentary to Reformer Committee.

Facts far from complimentary to the Ju committee on Commerce have come out in the evidence of Mr. Ketcham, counsel against colonial line. He was put on the stand to cross to the authenticity of a document presented, and then on cross-examination it appeared that he wrote the report which was submitted to Congress as the report of the Committee on Commerce, that considerable testimony was suppressed, and that a number of statements of the report were not in accordance with the evidence taken.

The Chattanooga Office Holders.

Gen. Grant to-day informed Gen. Hingston, Gen. Grant to-day informed Gen. Hingston, Collector of Internal Revenue at Chattanooga, that he was determined to make no removals from office in that district, except for cause, and that Gen. Hingston would have to make a good case to get rid of any of his men. Gen. Hingston expressed himself as satisfied with the decision, and said that the Democrats would be disappointed at the course the President had taken in the matter.

Appointments Confirmed.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate, and they were confirmed without reference: Thomas Ewing, Jr., of Ohio, to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia; Edward Carrington, of Rhode Island, to be Governor of Utah; Wm. Gunn, of Illinois, to be Surveyor General of Utah; Wm. Gunn, of Illinois, to be Surveyor General of Utah; Wm. Gunn, of Illinois, to be Surveyor General

The Daily Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1869.

The recent order of the Erie Managers to the United States Express Company to quit, and the announcement that the Railroad Company would prosecute the express business has turned out a stock operation. The Express Company have made a friendly new arrangement with the road, and things will go on as they were, the only noticeable having is a new thing, out of the rise and fall of express stocks.

It is pleasant to know that in this day of office-seeking there are men whom the office seeks. It seems that the speculation between and Wilson's appointments to more than fifty of gentlemen was of. Should either the Cabinet, ministerial ability and in these instances where the office is eagerly sought after.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL seems to be speeding his appointments in a manner similar to the method adopted by the President. In making up his committees he evinces a disposition to select those members possessing the best qualifications. It is not merely a number of rewards for services supposed to have been rendered that Mr. BOUTWELL is distributing. He is evidently deliberating who of all those at his disposal are best calculated to render service to the country, and acquit themselves creditably. The two things are entirely different, and the last is certainly the most difficult to determine, but Mr. BOUTWELL is undoubtedly on the right track.

THE delay in forming the Cabinet facilitated to the finding of a few so old and obsolete that even Attorney General EVARTS was not aware of the existence, does not interfere with the operations of the spirit of reform which animates the new administration. As a fair sample of what we may expect, we have the case of those prominent members of the whisky ring revealed, and smashing Huthinville Rye must be moved, and the promise of a speedy settlement of Mr. FITZPATRICK'S case. Among the removals we note that of FRANCIS BLAIR, who will doubtless accept his removal as an evidence of the commencement of that treasonable rule he has been predicting. We regard the removals of MESSRS. BLAIR and SHERMAN from the board of Pacific Railroad Commissioners as a favorable augury.

THE editor of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, Mr. FINANCIER'S personal organ, in a letter from Washington, denounces General GRANT for saying that it must be understood that no repudiation of one farthing of the public debt will be treated in public place." This is pronounced a "treasonable sanction of the loudmouths"—a form of expression that proves the sentence of the President's language and the necessity of his stern proclamation against repudiation and repudiators. It is too true that the real heresy of repudiation has many believers, who, notwithstanding their discomfiture last fall, do not propose to give up the contest. In view of this fact, there is all the more significance and value in the way the President has put his foot down in this connection.

AFTER a week's recess, the Legislatures are back and in session at Harrisburg again. We hear it said that the expensive, luxury officers of the House mean with unusual determination to consummate the outrage planned at the opening of the session, by bullying the Senate into putting their pay into the Appropriation bill. The House, after making wonderful professions of economy, and cutting off a few things so as to make a show of retrenchment, unceremoniously put the pay of the superannuates into the Appropriation bill, after it had been reported without it out. The people, therefore, look to the Senate, and demand that Senators stand firmly by their original position—opposed to these superannuates. We hear of all sorts of expedients threatened to compel the Senate to yield, but as yet we have seen nothing in the action of that body to lead us to expect that it will take the back track. This question has been but little argued for some time, but it has by no means passed out of mind. Nor will it. The House has done its worst. The people look to the Senate.

THE President has given notice that applications for office must come and go through the proper Departments, which means that he is not going to be bothered with filling every little office. By the Departments, however, a rigid examination into the qualifications of applicants will be instituted. So far as possible, it is understood, the proposed Civil Service Law will be taken for a guide. No business man chooses for a manager one who has never been successful himself; nature is plainly against that. His failure was from some cause other than his own want of capacity or shortcoming, and it is to be presumed that the antecedents of applicants will not be left out of the account, but as well as his other qualifications, will be considered as having an important bearing. The notification of the President means that the Departments will be held to a strict accountability. This accords perfectly with President GRANT'S habits and education. In military life he never hesitated to cut a General's official head off if he failed, and he has already declared that he will as promptly remove unfaithful and incompetent officers of his own appointing as those appointed by his predecessor.

DOES QUINCY DISCOUNTATE.

It is barely possible that Hon. QUINCY is not such a total buffoonist as realists readers suppose. Making due allowances for the lapse of time, and the advancement of civilization, it is not impossible that much of the history we are inclined to accept as the creation of a colloquial fancy, was simply a relation of wonderful facts to be found only in Spanish history. We are led to this conclusion by the peculiar character of our advices from Cuba, as received through official channels. When VALMASEDA consigned the insurgents and captured Bayamo, their stronghold, we were informed that the slaughter of the rebels was terrible in the extreme. When the troops occupying Puerto Principe sallied out of the garrison, attacked and captured the earthworks of the insurgents, and having no further use for the walled city, with its starved populace, strong garrison and goodly supply of provisions, considerately permitted the demoralized insurgents to occupy it in their turn, it was merely one of those instances when Spanish chivalry refuses to press a paralyzed or helpless foe. The fact that the insurgents dressed VALMASEDA in Bayamo, dammed that place of everything valuable, and after thrashing his troops soundly gave them what was left to stay their hungry stomachs, did not prevent the Spanish mind from dwelling upon the glory reflected upon the Spanish arms. In the affair at Puerto Principe the troops wearied of slaughtering the poor dogs of Cubans in the trenches. The thing palled even upon the Spanish taste and they simply scrapped positions in order to render the game more interesting.

We presume some such explanation will follow the recent official advices from Havana. According to the account furnished by the government, the hopeful engagement between the insurgents and the troops was fought on the shores of Cuttias, where four thousand "strongly entrenched" insurgents were defeated by fifteen hundred regular troops, who fought with the bayonet. The carnage was fearful—on the Cuban side. The insurgents lost a thousand killed and wounded, General LESCA, who performed the brilliant exploit, reports a loss of thirty-one killed and eighty wounded. The account adds that the insurgents are very much disheartened. If we make due allowance for the contemplation of the result of an engagement which floored three of twenty-five per cent. of the force actually engaged in the battle, perhaps they are excusable in exhibiting a trifle of despondency. But what must make the matter worse, is the fact that this tremendous rate of mortality was sustained solely by the insurgents! There is no suffocating the hostile bayonet, images of the Spanish troops, it seems, if we are to credit the official reports. It is difficult to understand how the strongly intrenched insurgents permitted themselves to be impaled upon their enemies' bayonets so readily, and still more difficult to comprehend how fifteen hundred men managed to starve and allow up a number nearly equal to their own, or why, having got their Spanish up they stopped short of slaughtering the entire body opposing them. We can only account for the cessation of the bayonet carnage upon the supposition that the troops, exhausted by the violent muscular exercise necessary in conducting such a long musket drill, were compelled to take a short rest, when their better feelings prevailed, and the sanguinary contest happily came to an end. One thing is certain. The report succeeded in the government accounts never had a parallel in our late war. We are confident it never had a parallel anywhere, or at any time in the history of any people. On this account we are inclined not to dispute it, but simply to close it with similar performances related with becoming gravity by the greatest of Spanish historians.

"HE MEANS BUSINESS."

It is conceded on all hands that the first and strongest impression created by the President's inaugural finds the most faithful expression in the phrase "he means business." This is the subject of very general remark. Heretofore the public, accustomed to ambiguous sentences, non-committal or balking phrases, and a style of composition open to various interpretations, paid little attention to promises lodged about by a variety of conditions. GRANT'S language goes as straight to the mark as to leave no room for doubt as to his settled purpose. His sharp, decisive sentences excite a degree of surprise only equalled by the pleasure that succeeds it. This means "business," is the universal comment. We trust our readers will not overlook another fact equally patent. That if the public performs its plain duty in the premises, it will not permit the President to fail in the accomplishment of the business intrusted to him simply for want of support. The public must remember that the effort to reduce the operation of the government machinery to a business basis system, cannot be successful unless public spirit becomes active in behalf of the movement. The practical operation of the system of administering government laid down by the President will inflict into every department, gradually the same principles which grew into a basket in the selection of the subordinates, the manufacturer his confidential agent or the business man his responsible boy. This is a new theory. Yet we cannot see wherein it can fail, if the public will discharge their duty promptly. There never was a time in the history of the government when a thorough knowledge of the business details connected with our public affairs was so essential to the full and complete discharge of the various duties required. Unless we are cautious whether the wheels of State move easily and smoothly, or cring with the introduction of individual, petty and selfish aims, we should see to it that no part of the machinery is interfered with by the importunities or ammosities of those who fancy their services slighted and their superior attainments neglected. Special pleas should not be tolerated. To make use of a homely saying, "business is business," and charity is not business by any means. The charity that places business matters at the disposal of incompetent persons based upon false assumptions. If we are honest in our expression of affection for GRANT'S business like style, we must have a care not to place any barriers in his way.

THE SHIFTS OF SLAVE-MAKERS.

We can appreciate the keen disappointment which attended the efforts of the Kentucky delegation in endeavoring to impress upon the President a due sense of the importance of their advice in the matter of making up his appointments for that State. We can appreciate still better the dismay of that portion of the loyal, Grant-and-Colfax, Gen. Thomas, upon discovering that instead of introducing to the President a delegation anxious to pay their compliments to him, he was interrupted into an ambush by a party made up of political bosom, every one of whom had his claim ready for Grant's inspection. It was not much wonder that General THOMAS lost a hasty exit. We venture to assert that he will never be inflamed to lend another delegation of slave makers. As for the slave-makers of Kentucky, they must be incorrigible, else they would have taken a hint from the failure of the chief makers of Pennsylvania, and thus saved themselves the mortification which always attends defeat. If it is any comfort to them, they have the satisfaction of knowing that in the matter of appointments there must be some sort of system, and to arrive at that it is absolutely necessary that the papers of all applicants should pass through the hands of the heads of the various departments, who are accountable for the acts of their subordinates. Besides relieving the President of a vast amount of unnecessary annoyance, this method will facilitate business, and serve as a substitute for a Civil Service bill.

Production of Precious Metals.

WILLIAM P. BLAKE, who was appointed commissioner to the Paris Exposition from California, has published a report giving the production and consumption of precious metals from 1863 to 1868. Mr. BLAKE is a mineralogist and geologist, and appears to have performed his work thoroughly. His estimate of the production of gold and silver for 1868, as derived from information obtained at the Paris Exposition, is as follows:

United States	$61,000,000
Russia and Siberia	30,000,000
Australia	75,000,000
Mexico and South America	75,000,000
Europe	8,000,000
Africa	1,000,000
Asia	10,000,000
Total for 1868	$260,000,000

In 1862, the annual supply of gold was $46,000,000. The production of 1867 is estimated at $170,000,000; silver $90,000,000—total, $260,000,000. We learn from the report that the total amount of gold in the United States is now estimated at $700,000,000. It is now reckoned at $600,000,000.

Mr. BLAKE argues from this that the supply of gold instead of increasing, as commonly supposed, is diminishing, he says: Take, for example, the acknowledged facts of the last twenty-five years. Four hundred and fifty millions, in 1868, is a larger proportion to the whole bulk of production in 1868 than was $200,000,000 in 1863, and this is the true test of values, and it is a very much larger proportion than was $100,000,000 in 1851. The whole history of prices, independent of the adventitious circumstances of locus and paper money, shows this. These statements will doubtless surprise the portion of the community who have been taught that gold would one day become so cheap as to create a financial convulsion.

Gas Consumers and Gas Companies.

An investigation instituted by the New York Legislature recently reveals some singular facts in connection with the management of the Gas Companies in New York. The testimony of the officers of the various companies shows that the gas consumers have no rights which the manufacturers are bound to respect. The mammoth monopolies there appear to enjoy perfect immunity in their dealings with the public, notwithstanding the fact that they owe their existence to statutory laws and enjoy their privileges by the will of the people they tax so enormously, as for instance in the case of the Harlem Gas Company, which expends $1 50 in making a thousand feet of gas, and charges the public $3 as the privilege of using it. This is but one of several similar estimates. The officers of the various companies testified that there was no regulation which could be possibly construed as a protection to the public from overcharges. Like the gamblers who prevail upon the young, and simple or unfamiliar, the companies "seize" the consumer's "pile" and rake it in. A gas bill of seventeen dollars in one month seemed the proportion of seventy-one the next, and finally one for one hundred and five on the third. The victims of this rule of progression swore that he was using the same number of burners in his private dwelling during the whole period. Numerous instances of this nature led the Legislature to the conclusion that gas meters were as unreliable measures as strings made of India rubber. One official connected with a gas company admitted that a hundred meters bearing the seal of the inspector did not register at all. It is not surprising that the city government will revoke the charters of the gas companies and assume control of the business in order to protect the public from thieves right fronted and respectable.

Gold Product of California.

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CHEAP LANDS IN THE SOUTH.

Rare Chances for Northern Capitalists.

We have heretofore published statements in regard to the extraordinary low rates at which good farms and plantations are offered for sale in the Southern States. Wm. S. Bissell, Esq., recently paid a visit to South Carolina, and while there made inquiry as to the character of the lands in the market, the prices asked, &c. He found some most desirable plantations for sale, in the immediate vicinity of Charleston, at rates which seemed incredibly low. Since his return he has received a number of communications from landholders giving information in regard to places for sale, the terms, etc. We give below a few facts, gleaned from these letters, which may interest the public:

Among the recent sales at Charleston were the following residences and plantations of the late Colonel John S. Ashe:

Brick residence, South Bay, lot seventy-four feet by two hundred and sixty-nine deep, $10,000.

Wooden mansion, north side of South Bay, lot fifty-four feet by two hundred and forty-one deep, $10,000.

Sea island cotton plantation, known as "Point Place," St. Paul's Colleton, four hundred acres, $4,000.

Plantation in and around Adams' Run, known as "Moss Hill," one thousand and ten acres, $7,400.

A fruit farm, near Aiken, South Carolina, three hundred acres, with five hundred fruit trees, and about twenty-five acres of the choicest grapes, is offered for $7,000. This is in one of the healthiest sections of the State.

There are several sea island and upland plantations, near Charleston, offered very low. Also, rice plantations, worth, previous to the war, from $50,000 to $80,000 in gold, now ranging as from $6,000 to $10,000 in currency. The plantations having mostly been mortgaged, the owners are obliged to sell. The following are among those offered:

"Shell Bore" Plantation, on Edisto Island containing four hundred acres, three hundred cleared and ready for planting. There are two dwelling houses, outhouses, and fourteen negro houses, all in good order. Price $4,000. Lighterdraught vessels can go within half a mile of the dwelling.

"Yellow House" Plantation, Wadmalaw Island, containing six hundred and seven acres, four hundred and fifty cleared and planted last year; balance all wooded, with plenty of game; buildings all in good order, and could easily be built over for $4,000. Plantation surrounded by water; steamers and sailvessels go right up to the landing; perfectly healthy all the year round. Price $12,000 cash.

Wadey's plantation, John's Island, eight hundred and twenty acres, two hundred cleared and planted last year, balance in marsh and wood land; negro houses, cotton houses, etc., all in good order. Price, $25,000.

Also, another thousand acres on John's Island five hundred cleared and planted last year; near sea coast, with inland navigation, about one and a half hours from Charleston by steamer, etc., on the place. Price, $21,000 cash.

The above will give the reader a fair idea of the opportunities offered for safe investments in the South. The "Sea Islands" are famous for the fine quality of the cotton raised thereon, and labor is represented to be both abundant and cheap. Those who purchase now will have but a little time to wait in order to realize many fold on their investments, as nothing seems surer than the early reconstruction of Southern society, and the rapid and extraordinary development of the resources of the soil.

In the House of Commons nothing is more common than to hear a prominent member "humbly begging permission" to express his opinion, causing the attention "of his fellow members" or suggesting that duty compels him to differ" from the views of a preceding speaker. All this is done in order that no one may think that the Jamestown Ferry is part of the machinery is interfered with by the importunities or ammosities of those who fancy their services slighted and their superior attainments neglected. Special pleas should not be tolerated. To make use of a homely saying, "business is business," and charity is not business by any means. The charity that places business matters at the disposal of incompetent persons based upon false assumptions. If we are honest in our expression of affection for Grant's business like style, we must have a care not to place any barriers in his way.

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Asia	10,000,000
Total for 1868	$260,000,000

In 1862, the annual supply of gold was $46,000,000. The production of 1867 is estimated at $170,000,000; silver $90,000,000—total, $260,000,000. We learn from the report that the total amount of gold in the United States is now estimated at $700,000,000. It is now reckoned at $600,000,000.

Mr. BLAKE argues from this that the supply of gold instead of increasing, as commonly supposed, is diminishing, he says: Take, for example, the acknowledged facts of the last twenty-five years. Four hundred and fifty millions, in 1868, is a larger proportion to the whole bulk of production in 1868 than was $200,000,000 in 1863, and this is the true test of values, and it is a very much larger proportion than was $100,000,000 in 1851. The whole history of prices, independent of the adventitious circumstances of locus and paper money, shows this. These statements will doubtless surprise the portion of the community who have been taught that gold would one day become so cheap as to create a financial convulsion.

Gas Consumers and Gas Companies.

An investigation instituted by the New York Legislature recently reveals some singular facts in connection with the management of the Gas Companies in New York. The testimony of the officers of the various companies shows that the gas consumers have no rights which the manufacturers are bound to respect. The mammoth monopolies there appear to enjoy perfect immunity in their dealings with the public, notwithstanding the fact that they owe their existence to statutory laws and enjoy their privileges by the will of the people they tax so enormously, as for instance in the case of the Harlem Gas Company, which expends $1 50 in making a thousand feet of gas, and charges the public $3 as the privilege of using it. This is but one of several similar estimates. The officers of the various companies testified that there was no regulation which could be possibly construed as a protection to the public from overcharges. Like the gamblers who prevail upon the young, and simple or unfamiliar, the companies "seize" the consumer's "pile" and rake it in. A gas bill of seventeen dollars in one month seemed the proportion of seventy-one the next, and finally one for one hundred and five on the third. The victims of this rule of progression swore that he was using the same number of burners in his private dwelling during the whole period. Numerous instances of this nature led the Legislature to the conclusion that gas meters were as unreliable measures as strings made of India rubber. One official connected with a gas company admitted that a hundred meters bearing the seal of the inspector did not register at all. It is not surprising that the city government will revoke the charters of the gas companies and assume control of the business in order to protect the public from thieves right fronted and respectable.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

New Projects in Pennsylvania—Pittsburgh and a Southern Connection.

—The railroad fever in Mercer county is just at its height, and one or more roads are certain to be built this summer. A party of engineers were engaged last week in surveying a road from New Castle to Sandy Lake, connecting at that point with the Jamestown and Franklin road. The officers of the projected road from SHARON to Greenfield speak very decidedly of the success of the undertaking, and the present intention is to extend the road from Greenfield to the coal fields in Butler county. A road is already completed from West Middlesex to Bethel, about one and one-half miles west of Greenfield, over which one hundred and fifty tons of coal are shipped daily from the Bethel mines.

—Energetic efforts are being made in Greene and Fayette counties, Pa., and in Monongalia county, West Va., in behalf of the Uniontown and West Virginia Railroad. The Legislature of West Virginia has passed an act allowing the townships along the line of the road to take stock, and the matter is exciting great interest in Virginia. This is a very important road, as it will give Pittsburgh, by completing it to Weirton, an outlet to the Southern States in all directions.

—On Tuesday, February 23d, the Secretary of state of Ohio issued a charter for the building of a Railroad from New Philadelphia to Dennison, on the line of the Pan Handle. The Legislature

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, March 9, 1869.

Since the passage of the law making a change in the time for receiving quarterly statements of the National Banks there is less appearance of any discrepancies in our local money market as the final of April approaches. The usual crowd of stringency at such times frequently brought actual tightness about sooner than the real condition of monetary affairs justified. As compared with the last quarterly statement of the Currency Comptroller from the banks not less than five statements annually, but there is some doubt whether this will supersede the necessity of a statement on the first of April next. From the information we have been informed on throughout there the conclusion that it will. Positive information could be made public as soon as possible. This bill is an important one, as benefits (particularly will no longer be a source of perpetual disturbances and embarrassment of the business interests of the country. It will preclude all manipulations of the money market in the interest of the banks desirous of making a strong exhibit. It will also prevent all "padding" of statements for special purposes, and will protect the financial and commercial public from the hardships of sudden contraction. There is no more bold and or has been the usual preliminary to former quarter-day returns, made up to-day in the future when were known and prepared for months in advance. Both the public and bank managers have been dissatisfied with the workings of the old law, we presume all will be glad to learn that it has been superseded by the passage of a new law on the subject which differs widely in accomplish fully the end desired, while doing away with the objectionable features of the old law. The Secretary of the Treasury has also satisfied reports as to the condition of the various banks at the close of business on any public day to be specified by the Comptroller of the Currency, whenever he may deem it necessary to require such additional returns. We presume all will be very much acceptable to the banks than the old will perhaps depend more on the way they have been in the habit of ruling their business than upon the simple matter of the law itself.

The bond market was firmer and a fraction or an higher than yesterday's prices. It is thought that as soon as the completion of Washington in regard to the Treasury appointments is announced, there will be another flurry advance in all the bonds. The letter of Jay Cooke & Co., received by Messrs. Mc'Vay & Co., confirms the market of yesterday as being the best of the week.

The market for gold was quiet and with much fewer prices in consequence of decline of bonds both in London and this city, and the uncertainty of Congress' action.

When the report came from Washington that the Secretary of the Treasury would not sell gold, the speculations seemed to be at an end, and gold declined, and from that time on it was steadily offered, and from London advices, showing an improvement of ½ per cent., over selling quotations of yesterday, and the opening of the Board in this city not so active as yesterday, on account of a great many not being in town, the market was dull and heavy at the close.

The market has been dormant all day and there was nothing doing. Gold was weak, and offered at 131¼ without buyers. Government bonds were dull and heavy.

Messrs. Jay S. Kennedy & Co. report as the following quotations of government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., bank correspondents:

	Noon.	Closing.
6's, 1881, coupon	113¾	113¾
6's, 1881, registered	113¾	113¾
5's, 10-40, coupon	107¾	107¾
5's, 10-40, registered	107¾	107¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1862	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1862	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1864	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1864	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1865	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1865	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1867	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1867	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1868	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1868	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1869	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1869	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1870	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1870	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1871	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1871	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1872	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1872	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1873	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1873	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1874	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1874	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1875	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1875	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1876	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1876	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1877	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1877	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1878	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1878	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1879	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1879	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1880	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, registered, 1880	113¾	113¾

The following table, made up from the quotations received at J. S. Kennedy's Stock Reports Agents Building, No. 9 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway stocks, Gold, &c., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

	10 A.M.	11 A.M.	12 M.	1 P.M.	2 P.M.	3 P.M.
Gold	131¼	131¼	131¼	131¼	131¼	131¼
6's, 1881, coupon	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1862	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1864	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1865	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1867	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
6's, 5-20, coupon, 1868	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
5's, 10-40, coupon	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾
Pacific R. R. 6's, gold	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾	107¾
Central Pacific R. R. 6's, gold	90	90	90	90	90	90
Union Pacific R. R. 6's, gold	90	90	90	90	90	90
Central Pacific R. R. stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Union Pacific R. R. stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Erie stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Illinois Central stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Cleveland & Pittsburgh stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Chicago & Rock Island stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Chicago & Northwestern stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Chicago & Northwestern preferred	90	90	90	90	90	90
Cleveland & Toledo stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Southern stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Central stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Ohio & Mississippi stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Wabash stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Fort Wayne stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Western Union Telegraph	90	90	90	90	90	90
Quicksilver	90	90	90	90	90	90
Quicksilver preferred	90	90	90	90	90	90
Mariposa stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Mariposa preferred	90	90	90	90	90	90
New York Central stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Hudson River stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Reading stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Canton Co. stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Cumberland preferred	90	90	90	90	90	90
Pittsburgh stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Virginia 6's	90	90	90	90	90	90
Missouri 6's	90	90	90	90	90	90
Canton Co. stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Cumberland preferred	90	90	90	90	90	90
Pittsburgh stock	90	90	90	90	90	90
Virginia 6's	90	90	90	90	90	90
Missouri 6's	90	90	90	90	90	90

A comparison between yesterday's and today's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Yes.	Tues.	Adv.	Dec.
U. S. Coupons	131¼	131¼		
Pacific R. R.	107¾	107¾		
Central Pacific	90	90		
Union Pacific	90	90		
Erie	90	90		
Illinois Central	90	90		
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	90	90		
Chicago & Rock Island	90	90		
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	90	90		
Chicago & Northwestern	90	90		
Chicago & Northwestern preferred	90	90		
Cleveland & Toledo	90	90		
Michigan Southern	90	90		
Michigan Central	90	90		
Ohio & Mississippi	90	90		
Wabash	90	90		
Fort Wayne	90	90		
Western Union Telegraph	90	90		
Quicksilver	90	90		
Quicksilver preferred	90	90		
Mariposa	90	90		
Mariposa preferred	90	90		
New York Central	90	90		
Hudson River	90	90		
Reading	90	90		
Canton Co.	90	90		
Cumberland preferred	90	90		
Pittsburgh	90	90		
Virginia 6's	90	90		
Missouri 6's	90	90		

Though the public credit is not inclined to be over-sanguine, it is more encouraging that the world will understand that the popular sentiment of the country on this subject, so far as it can be ascertained, is in favor of an immediate payment of the debt in coin money, and that the bill goes on to be possible with the full support of public opinion, is laying the foundation of financial reform. The bill did not propose to delay the final redemption of any part of the present debt until a period when it could be paid in coin, but to make the issue of interest than the least paid off, as has been supposed by some writers, but provided that the debt should not be increased by the issue of any part of bonds matured, unless either the legislature so consented, or in case the public exigencies should require it, at a low rate of interest not to exceed that of the bonds then to be redeemed. The bill does not propose to increase the taxation of the country, but to diminish it, by decreasing the interest payment to one of maturity, only if neither the legislature nor the people of the country consent to such reduction, and the passage of the bill is only important now so far as it confirms in the people the confidence in the honesty and good faith of the administration.

James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 9 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), deals in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks, being represented in the New York Stock Board by a member of the firm, who is ready for purchases and sales on commission; any stocks on the regular list on the same terms as the New York brokers. Correspondents, Cooke and Fiske, to whom purchased for customers on the usual terms.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
FRIDAY EVENING, March 5, 1869. }

Trade to-day was only moderately active. There is a fair demand for groceries. Prices of sugar, coffee, molasses, and oil, remain firm in price. There seems more firmness in provisions, but prices are unchanged. Butter of a choice quality seems scarce and prices stiffen. Eggs are in fair supply but unchange.

We quote Flour as follows: Wheat is scarce and prices rule unchanged unless otherwise noted.

APPLES—We quote good to choice at $3.50@4 per bbl.

BEANS—Prime to choice, $2.25@2.50 per bushel.

BUTTER—Prime are higher. Sales at 40@42c per lb. Inferior and ordinary grades are quiet and unchanged.

CHEESE—Prime to choice Ohio, 20@21c per lb. Factory cheese is in good demand at 22@23c per lb.

COAL OIL—Refined, 45@50c per gallon; crude, 30@35c per gallon.

CANDLES—Sperm, 60@65c per lb; adamantine, 30@35c per lb; star, 30@35c per lb; tallow, 12@13c per lb.

COFFEE—Rio, 26@28c per lb; Java, 35@40c per lb; Laguayra, 28@30c per lb.

CRANBERRIES—$12@13 per bbl.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples, 8@9c per lb; peaches, halves, 12@13c per lb; quarters, 8@9c per lb; cherries, 20@22c per lb; plums, 12@13c per lb; blackberries, 12@13c per lb.

EGGS—Scarce at 30@32c per dozen.

FEATHERS—Prime live geese, 70@75c per lb.

FISH—Mackerel, No. 1, $18@19 per bbl; No. 2, $16@17 per bbl; No. 3, $14@15 per bbl; Lake Trout, $8@9 per bbl; Herring, $6@7 per bbl; Codfish, 8@9c per lb.

FLOUR—Superfine, $6@6.50 per bbl; extra, $7@7.50 per bbl; family, $8@8.50 per bbl; fancy, $9@10 per bbl.

GRAIN—Wheat, $2@2.10 per bushel; corn, 90@95c per bushel; oats, 60@65c per bushel; barley, $1.50@1.75 per bushel; rye, $1.25@1.30 per bushel; buckwheat, $2.50@2.75 per bushel.

GREEN FRUIT—Apples, $4@5 per bbl; cranberries, $12@13 per bbl; pineapples, $4@5 per dozen; lemons, $5@6 per box; oranges, $5@6 per box; Malaga grapes, $5@6 per keg.

HAY—Timothy, $20@22 per ton; prime, $18@19 per ton; mixed, $16@17 per ton; clover, $15@16 per ton.

HONEY—Strained, 30@35c per gallon; in the comb, 35@40c per lb.

HOPS—Prime, 30@35c per lb.

LARD—Prime, 18@20c per lb.

MEATS—Hams, sugar cured, 18@20c per lb; shoulders, 12@13c per lb; sides, 15@16c per lb; dried beef, 25@30c per lb.

MOLASSES—Sugar House, $1@1.10 per gallon; Syrup, $1.25@1.50 per gallon; New Orleans, $1.50@1.75 per gallon.

NUTS—Almonds, soft shell, 25@30c per lb; hard shell, 20@25c per lb; Brazil, 15@20c per lb; filberts, 15@20c per lb; pecans, 15@20c per lb; walnuts, 15@20c per lb; chestnuts, $6@7 per bushel.

ONIONS—$4@5 per bbl.

POTATOES—Peerless, $3@3.50 per bbl; Early Rose, $3@3.50 per bbl; Mercer, $3@3.50 per bbl; Pinkeye, $3@3.50 per bbl; Burbank, $3@3.50 per bbl.

POULTRY—Chickens, 12@15c per lb; turkeys, 20@25c per lb; ducks, 15@18c per lb; geese, 15@18c per lb.

SEEDS—Timothy, $3@3.50 per bushel; clover, $6@7 per bushel; flaxseed, $2.50@2.75 per bushel; blue grass, $2@2.50 per bushel; Hungarian, $1.50@1.75 per bushel; millet, $1.50@1.75 per bushel.

SUGAR—Prime, 12@13c per lb; crushed, 14@15c per lb; powdered, 14@15c per lb; coffee, 13@14c per lb; A, 13@14c per lb; extra C, 12@13c per lb; yellow C, 11@12c per lb; golden C, 11@12c per lb.

TALLOW—Prime, 10@11c per lb.

VEGETABLES—Cabbage, $4@5 per 100; turnips, 50@60c per bushel; beets, 50@60c per bushel; carrots, 50@60c per bushel; parsnips, 50@60c per bushel; celery, 50@60c per dozen; tomatoes, $1@1.25 per can; corn, 15@20c per can; peas, 15@20c per can; beans, 15@20c per can.

WOOL—Prime, 60@65c per lb; coarse, 50@55c per lb; fine, 55@60c per lb.

WHISKEY—$2.50@2.55 per gallon.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PETROLEUM EXCHANGE, }
WEDNESDAY, March 10, 1869. }

The market yesterday, during the forenoon, was quiet with a light demand both for crude and refined, and prices were nearly the same as last quoted, but later in the day the market became excited, exhibiting decidedly more strength, produced no finish, by dispatches from New York detailing movements in progress among the leading refiners with a view to keep West from delaying movements in progress among the leading refiners with a view to keep West from delaying movements in progress among the leading refiners with a view to keep West from delaying

The Daily Commercial.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

In the Supreme Court New York, on Monday, the case of James S. Patterson vs. the Erie Railway and Peterson Railroad Company, came on for hearing, Hamilton being in reply. Mr. H. in the course of certain comparisons owned by Patterson and leased by the company at various periods, said that the leasing of the property by the latter from the plaintiff in the bill amounted almost to a gift.

A case under the civil rights law is at present before the court of Common Pleas, New York. Rachael Jacobs, a colored woman of Savannah, sues the Atlantic Navigation Company for five thousand dollars damages, claiming to have been ejected from the first cabin of the steamer Nevada on a trip from Savannah to New York, in the early part of the season ago.

Shaffle's lumber yard at Cambridge, Mass., was burned Monday. Loss $50,000.

Van Riper's flour mill at Rochester, N. Y., was partly destroyed by a boiler explosion Monday. Four persons were killed and one injured.

The case of Danforth N. Barney against Wm. H. Wil, Chas. Burdon Sinder and others, to recover $20,000 for damages sustained by plaintiff as President of the Wells Fargo Express Company, by the explosion of a box of nitro-glycerine on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in Philadelphia some years ago, commenced yesterday before Judge Russell, in New York.

Silas Harrison, brother of Wm. Clem, now in jail at Cincinnati, charged with the murder of the Young murder, has made a confession, in which he states that he was in the conspiracy, but was not present, and did not take an active part in the murder, and that Wm. Clem was not at Cold Spring when the murder was committed. The woman who escaped from the Tombs to Cold Spring was a prostitute named Frank Clark, and that after a short time Clem married her and left the murder. He also implicates Robt. L. Young, who is in the penitentiary, as one of the gang of robbers. His statement is not believed. Officer Hall is doubtful as to Wm. Clem and Harrison having been arrested. Neither Young nor Flemm have been arrested, and there is no doubt that Harrison and Mrs. Clem are the murderers.

Great excitement prevails in Muscatine, Iowa, over a murder committed near there yesterday. Dr. Christian Hershey had several words with Mowery at Stockman, on Saturday morning. Dr. Hershey, a married and a respectable man. Mowerie went to Mowery's house, and shot Dr. Hershey in the left temple, from which resulted by Mowery shooting the doctor dead. The murderer was arrested and committed to jail. The excitement against Mowery is intense, and serious trouble is threatened if he is not promptly punished.

The difficulty between the Northern Cincinnati and Erie Railways has been adjusted, and the cars of the former company made regular connections yesterday.

The examination by Assessor Webster of the affairs of Clark, Dodge & Co., of New York, with a view to assess the tax of one-twentieth of one per cent. on their capital stock as bankers and brokers, was commenced yesterday. Mr. Webster claims that the penalties in this case for failure to make proper returns will amount to $1,000,000, and that the case will end in favor of the Government. The firm, he says, is one of the largest in the country, and has been engaged in banking and brokerage throughout the Government when made.

Moses Lowell, Republican, was elected Mayor of Saco, Maine, yesterday, by three hundred majority. The first day's vote resulted in a tie.

William Jones, a brakeman, was run over and killed by a train on the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad yesterday.

The Springfield, Massachusetts, Woman's Suffrage Convention yesterday, elected Elizabeth Frank President, and E. Landers and Mrs. S. Ringgold, Secretaries. The principal speakers were Mrs. Livermore, Mrs. Ashburtagh and S. Foster. The convention continues to-day.

Daniel L. Harris, of Springfield, Mass., President of the Connecticut River Railroad, has been appointed Government Commissioner of the Union Pacific Railroad.

It is now stated the pardon of Martin, the defaulting cashier of the 3rd Ward Loaner Bank of Boston, was not served, but returned to Washington. The case will probably be referred to Congress.

Six companies of the Sixth Infantry, under Colonel Williams, lately on duty in South Carolina, passed through Memphis yesterday, en route for Fort Schuyler.

John P. Miller, a dentist, formerly of New York, was found dead near Paris, Tennessee, yesterday, having died of " biliy and exposure.

Gomez' " after an exile in his home at ..... morning. He ..... position of ....